



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF IVANHOE

*St Bernadette's Church, 89 Bond St, Ivanhoe West
Mary Immaculate Church, 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe
Mother of God Church, 56 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East*

Parish Priest: Fr. Thang Vu 63 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East 9499 5440 (after hours)
Priest in Residence: Fr. Lasbert Sinaga **Parish Secretary:** Mrs Ruth Villani
Parish Office: 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe 3079 **Phone:** 9499 1515 **Fax:** 9499 9959
Parish Website: www.ivanhoecatholics.com **Email:** catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com

Masses:

Weekend: Saturday: 6.00pm St Bernadette's **Sunday:** 9am Mary Immaculate; 10.30am Mother of God
Weekday: 9.15am **Tuesday:** Mother of God **Wednesday:** Mary Immaculate **Friday:** St Bernadette's

No. 51

19 – 20 December 2015

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: YEAR C



Lighting of the Fourth Advent candle:

Mary's time of waiting - and ours - has nearly reached its end. As we light the fourth candle, we remind ourselves that Jesus birth in time was the beginning of his mission - a mission he calls us to share in **service** to and for others - to be the loving presence of God in our world.

THE WORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

V.1 O Shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. **R.**

V. 2 God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.

Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

V. 3 May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength.

And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: That we will turn to you: **Lord, hear our prayer**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY: We remember Mary O'Toole, Jim Murphy, Sarah O'Shaughnessy, Silvia Scalia, Domenica Bertoli, Joyce O'Brien, Betty Stanton, Stanko & Ankica Ivancic, Vin Murphy, Pat & Nestor Mendes, Amanda Rathjen, Christine Smith, Stuart King, Marty Brown, Ingrid Weinberg, Mike McGuire, Margaret O'Brien, Tran thi Kim Chi, Sung Bui, Amy Nguyen, John Coonan and Sheila Darcy who are in need of prayer at this time. We remember those who support and care for those in need.

We remember Br. Kevin Clarke SAC and Orlindo Sibillin who have died recently. We remember Kerry Carroll, Peter Vu Pham, Mary Hue Nguyen, John Masters, Patrick Jordan and Yvonne Homsey whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.



Baptisms: We welcome Sybilla Colbert, Joshua Bricknell and Faith Bricknell who are baptised into the faith community of the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe this weekend. We welcome their families, relatives and friends who have come to share this special occasion, one of many steps in the lifelong journey of faith.

Notices in the Parish Newsletter

Please be advised that as part of Christmas Masses 2015 and until after New Year 2016 prayers for the sick, death and anniversary notices will be general and names not included. Once normal newsletters resume 2016 please contact the Parish Office for general notices, prayers for the sick, death and anniversary notices.

Music

1 Samuel 16:18-23 recalls a story when the Spirit of the Lord departed from King Saul and an evil spirit of the Lord* tormented him. This caused much trouble for King Saul. Being consulted by his servants, King Saul sought out a man who was skillful in playing the harp. It happened to be the handsome, youngest, of Jesse's sons – David. So whenever the harmful, tormenting, evil spirit came to Saul, it was the music from David's harp that healed the king.

I have found enormous peace and calm when listening to instrumental music before weekday Masses, in the hospital or at home eg- Ave Maria, O Come Immanuel which we will listen to during the Offertory this Sunday.

(*) Saul is made a terror to himself. If God and his grace do not rule us, sin and Satan will have possession of us. The devil, by God's permission, troubled and terrified Saul, by the corrupt humours of his body, and passions of his mind. He grew fretful, peevish, and discontented, and at times a madman. (*Matthew Henry's Commentary*)

St Joseph

In the story of Jesus' birth, Joseph was called to let go of his own agenda in order to embrace the expansiveness of a God whose ways were always beyond his imagining. Reflect on a time when our personal world was shattered. What was that shattering experience like for us? What did God call us to do in that situation? What was our response in that situation?

Joseph's life was filled with fears and tensions: an arduous trek across inhospitable lands to Bethlehem with Mary who was nine months pregnant; the traumatic flight into Egypt; three days and nights of frantic searching and unspeakable agony, for Joseph when the child Jesus appeared lost ... Through all these ups and downs of his life, Joseph handled the tensions and fears with considerable grace. In a nutshell, Joseph clung to what really mattered: his trust in God's goodness and providence.

Please continue to pray for me as I prepare to undertake my new role in the Archdiocese at Ministry to Priests.

Joseph can be a companion in the Advent journey. He acts discreetly, humbly and silently, yet with an unfailing presence and utter fidelity, even when he finds it hard to understand.

Blessed Virgin Mary

Mary, a silent, pregnant young woman, is present as one waiting in hope for God to act. The pregnant Mary reminds us that new life comes at its own rate of growth, according to laws that do not yield to a desire for quick results. She speaks to all of us caught up in a fast-paced world, and instant sensational social media. In a culture that disposes quickly of what isn't working, that has little patience with either fragility or weakness, Mary reminds us that we have to wait for some things.

Like her, we may be called to witness to a God who works in the fullness of time, which can be excruciatingly slow for those who live by a schedule. This is happening in our parish while we await Fr Raju Jacob's arrival (13/01/2016), exploring, listening, discussing and discerning a way forward with our three churches, three schools, three presbyteries, and a convent in order to serve the People of God in Ivanhoe better. Throughout the history of salvation, God proves to be a God of new life, full of surprises, a God who is Emmanuel, God-with-us.

Mary ultimately is our Advent companion, because she is carrying the Word-Incarnate herself. All that Jesus needed to take to himself to redeem us, and to share our human existence, he takes from Mary: through her capacity to die, she gives him; her capacity to experience human suffering, she gives him. If Jesus takes his flesh from Mary, then she is our companion who leads us into our deepest union with her Son, Jesus. It is in the joys and hopes, anguish and anxiety of our lives which are now the place where Christ forges a union between himself and humankind.

Maranatha – Emmanuel – Amen.
Come, O Lord – God-with-us – Amen.

Sources: Glenstal Bible Missal, For Sundays and Sacraments, 1983.
James Wallace CSsR, Three Companions for the Advent Journey,
<http://www.catholicireland.net/three-companions-for-the-advent-journey/>

INCLUSIVENESS

HOSPITALITY

SERVICE

MISSION

RECONCILIATION SERVICES:

Saturday 19 December	10.00am	St Bernadette's
Tuesday 22 December	7.30pm	Mother of God <u>Advent Reconciliation</u> , Second Rite (No Reconciliation at St Bernadette's Saturday 26 Dec)

Thank you from Fr Thang:

I would like to thank all concerned for their best wishes, cards and gifts received recently. Sincere thanks parishioners, schools, families and groups in our parish community for their ongoing prayers, assistance and support during my time in the Parish of Ivanhoe. Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare for and commence my new role as Director, Ministry to Priests.

Outreach Christmas Message:



A wonderful time was had by 26 people who attended the Christmas dinner/lunch at Yarra Valley Country Club on December 9. We warmly appreciate the company of everyone who attended Outreach events through 2015. We meet again for lunch and cards on February 3, 2016, and a movie/high tea on 17 February. More information to follow. We wish everyone a joyful Christmas, good health and happiness for the New Year of 2016. - Sue, Helen and Eileen

Christmas Masses in Parish of Ivanhoe:

Please refer to last page of newsletter or the pink notice provided last week. Each year, Mother of God Church has a Christmas Eve Carols Service at 7.00pm before the 7.30pm Family Mass. This year the choir will be joined by Robert Barbaro, parishioner and past pupil of Mother of God School, and past member of MOG Church Music Group. At present Robert is a member of internationally group known as 'The Ten Tenors'.

Parish Website: Information on Christmas Masses, sacramental enrolments and information, regularly updated news and articles - parish, archdiocese, local & world-wide available on website: www.ivanhoecatholics.com

2015 Christmas Mass Times and Carol Services in the Archdiocese of Melbourne:

For details of the Mass and service times of parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne visit www.cam.org.au; <http://www.cam.org.au/Church-in-Melbourne/Parish-Christmas-Celebrations-2015.aspx>

The Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe has an important all of parish event to plan!!

We all know that Fr Thang will take up his new ministry in mid-January and there has been much wondering about how we mark his time with us. That subject was on the agenda when the PLT met recently and it was readily agreed that it would be out of the question to try to arrange anything during December or January. So, February it will be. As soon as the details have been worked out, they will be widely publicised!! - PLT

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal 2015:

The local Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society thanks parishioners, as well as the children and families from the three parish primary schools for their generous contributions to the Christmas Hamper Appeal which were much appreciated and will assist and support many of our neighbours in need.

Mother of God Church Roster for 2016: Roster for Mother of God has been prepared and emailed to the relevant people earlier this week. Named copies of the roster are available in the Church foyer to be taken home for your use and reference. Sincere thanks to Helen Taylor who has prepared MOG rosters since 2012 at least, as well as sincere thanks to Rita Beltrame and Jill Brophy for their past contributions. - Ruth



Newsletter notices: Needed: Tuesday 22 December 2015

Newsletters for Christmas Day, weekends 26-27 December 2015 and 2-3 January 2016 will be printed earlier than normal so that they can be taken to each church on Thursday 24th December. **N.B. Notices need to be in no later than Tuesday 22 December.** Contact details: Parish Office: Phone 9499 1515, Fax 9499 9959; or email: catholicparisfofivanhoe@bigpond.com - Ruth

St Patrick's Cathedral Midnight Mass Live Streaming:

It's been announced this week that the Midnight Mass from St Patrick's Cathedral will be live streamed. Parishioners anywhere in the world with internet access will be able to watch the Mass streaming live from the Cathedral from 11.00pm. The webcast will be viewable through the Archdiocesan website: www.cam.org.au The CAM home page will have a live link to the service, which will also be available for replay right through the following days, again via the link clearly visible on the home page of the Melbourne Archdiocese's website.

Mercy Connect Melbourne – Volunteer opportunity assisting Refugee and Asylum Seekers:

Mercy Works Ltd is recruiting volunteers to support refugee students in Primary and Secondary schools as part of their educational transitions, as well as Adult Asylum Seeker English Classes through Mercy Connect Project Melbourne. Volunteer commitment is at least half a day per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Interview process in December / January, and Training Day at end of January 2016. Please contact Sister Mary Lewis RSM for application form and further information. Details: email: somml@bigpond.com or 9326 1895; website: www.mercyworks.org.au

Ivanhoe Playgroup: The Ivanhoe Playgroup offers a welcoming and supportive environment where parents and children can play, learn and have fun. **Ages:** The playgroup suits children aged between 0- 4 years

Venue: Mary Immaculate Church Hall, 4 Waverley Ave. Ivanhoe

Session Times: Wednesday 9 - 11am or Thursday 9 - 11am

Fees: \$80 per term for one child

Further details: Contact Liz Shearer: Phone 0411 345 664 or liz.shearer1@gmail.com

This Week's Readings: 4th Sunday of Advent - Year C

Micah 5:1-4

Psalm 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-44

Mon 21 Dec: St Peter Canisius

Tue 22 Dec: St Flavianus

Wed 23 Dec: St John of Canty

Thurs 24 Dec: Christmas Eve

Fri 25 Dec: Nativity of the Lord

Sat 26 Dec: St Stephen

Next Week's Readings: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Year C

Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

Psalm 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

John 3:1-2, 21-24

Luke 2:41-52

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2015

Christmas Eve: Thursday 24th December



Family Masses

6.00pm

St Bernadette's

7.30pm

Mary Immaculate

7.30pm

Mother of God (Carols from 7.00pm)

8.00 - 10.00pm

St Bernadette's – Korean Catholic Community

Please note:

There are no later Masses on Christmas Eve

Christmas Day: Friday 25th December



Morning Masses

9.00am

Mary Immaculate

9.00am

St Bernadette's

10.30am

Mother of God

11.00am-12.30pm

St Bernadette's Korean Catholic Community

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 26 – 27 December 2015

ST. BERNADETTE'S:

Saturday 6.00pm

Lector

S. Moorhen

Special Ministers

Sister Carmel, B. Jowett

MARY IMMACULATE: Leader

Sunday 9.00am

By arrangement

Reader

By arrangement

Mass Coordinators

By arrangement

Counters

S. & P. Kelly

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

By arrangement

Lector

By arrangement

Special Ministers

By arrangement

Altar Society:

By arrangement

Choir Coordinator:

By arrangement

By arrangement

First Collection – Thanksgiving:

Envelopes: \$2,244.00

Loose cash: \$488.30

Total: \$2,732.30

Second Collection – Presbytery:

Total: \$ 793.00

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